

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05
SS-15 COME-00 /065 W
-----088944 270315Z /62

R 270044Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3686

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 03073

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO PRESIDENTIAL
DECISION ON CONTINENTAL SERVICE TO NEW
ZEALAND

1. IN BANNER HEADLINE "CARTER SETS STAGE
FOR DOGFIGHT OVER PACIFIC FLIGHTS" WELLINGTON
MORNING NEWSPAPER "THE DOMINION" (JULY 25)
CARRIED LEAD ARTICLE ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S
DECISION TO GRANT SOUTH PACIFIC AIR RIGHTS
TO CONTINENTAL AIRLINES. BODY OF THE STORY
WAS BASED ON COMMENTS BY AIR NEW ZEALAND
GENERAL MANAGER, G W MATHESON, WHO SAID
HE BELIEVED THAT THE ROUTE WAS ALREADY
AMPLEY SERVED. FURTHER HE SAID IT WAS
STRANGE THAT THE USG HAD APPROVED CONTINENTAL
WHEN IT HAD RECENTLY ARGUED WITH THE UK TO
LIMIT ROUTES WITH FEWER THAN 600,000
PASSENGERS TO SINGLE CARRIERS FROM EACH
COUNTRY. ACCORDING TO MATHESON THERE ARE
ONLY ABOUT 200,000 PASSENGERS A YEAR WHO
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FLY TO NEW ZEALAND FROM THE WEST COAST OF
NORTH AMERICA. "THE DOMINION" ALSO WENT ON
TO SAY THAT "NEW ZEALAND WILL NOT WANT TO
SEE A REPEAT OF THE AMERICAN AIRLINES
FIASCO", REFERRING TO THE 1970-74 LOSS OF
AMERICAN IN THEIR OWN VENTURE INTO THE
SOUTH PACIFIC.

2. A MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT OFFICIAL HAS
TOLD US THAT THE GNZ WILL NOT BE RAISING
THE CONTINENTAL ISSUE IN THE ANZUS OR
BILATERAL TALKS SCHEDULED THIS WEEK.
RATHER IT PREFERS TO WITHHOLD COMMENT
UNTIL IT RECEIVES AND STUDIES THE DETAILS
OF THE ACTUAL PRESIDENTIAL DECISION.
INFORMALLY, WE ARE TOLD THAT GNZ POSITION
WILL BE THAT THERE ARE ENOUGH CARRIERS ON
THE ROUTE ALREADY, BUT WHETHER THE GNZ
WOULD PRESS FOR A RENEGOTIATION OF THE
PRESENT BILATERAL IS STILL UNKNOWN.
SELDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS, AIR ROUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977WELLIN03073
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770267-0241
Format: TEL
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770711/aaaaajsv.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a3f9f662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1728809
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REACTION TO PRESIDENTIAL DECISION ON CONTINENTAL SERVICE TO NEW ZEALAND
TAGS: EAIR, NZ, US, CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a3f9f662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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